# DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION ACCOUNT Contract No. DACA 85-86-C-0015

Negative Inventory Report for

EAGLE RIVER TRAINING CAMP SITE Municipality of Anchorage

### Prepared by:

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# <u>Submitted to:</u>

U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska

124295



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#### 1.0 SUMMARY

The Eagle River Training Camp Site is in the community of Eagle River in the Municipality of Anchorage, approximately 16 miles northeast of downtown Anchorage. The site was used by the Department of the Air Force for sub-arctic trail and camp training from 1953 to 1955. Ownership of the site is uncertain, but it is believed to be privately owned.

Property owners in the area are not aware of any debris. Information in the Corps of Engineers files indicates that no improvements to the site were planned. Therefore, this site is assigned a "negative" designation, and no remedial action by the Corps of Engineers is necessary.

#### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

In March, 1986, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, contracted URS Corporation to investigate various former Department of Defense (DOD) properties in Alaska under Contract No. 85-86-C-0015. This work is being conducted under the Defense Environmental Restoration Account (DERA), as authorized by the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-212), and provides a methodology for determining the eligibility of selected sites for remedial actions under this program.

The Corps of Engineers has contracted URS to prepare an inventory report for each site identified in the Scope of Work dated March 17, 1986, including:

- o A general history of the site and its use;
- o Determination of current land ownership and status;
- o Determination of the presence of military materials or debris at the site; and
- o Evaluation of the eligibility of the site for possible remediation under the DERA Program.

The intent of this project is to identify sites that contain military debris or materials of concern, such as POLs and environmentally hazardous substances, and those that require no further investigation. Section 4.0 discusses criteria for this determination.

#### 3.0 PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION

#### 3.1 Location

The Eagle River Training Camp Site is in the community of Eagle River in the Municipality of Anchorage, approximately 16 miles northeast of downtown Anchorage. The 10 acre site is centered at Latitude 61°17'42"N and Longitude 149°24'21"W. A legal description of the site is included in Appendix A.

Despite having a legal description of the site, its location could not be clearly identified even with the assistance of the Municipality of Anchorage and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Land and Water Resources. It appears to be south of the boundary of the Chugach State Park on the north side of Eagle River Road in Section 15, T14N, R1W, Seward Meridian.

#### 3.2 Historical Background

The Eagle River Training Camp Site was transferred from the Department of the Interior (DOI) to the Department of the Air Force through a Special Land Use Permit dated September 18, 1953 as amended on October 14, 1953. The permit was effective for two years, from September 1, 1953 through August 31, 1955. The 10 acre site was used for sub-arctic trail and camp conditioning on terrain not available on Elmendorf Air Force Base. Improvements to the site were not contemplated. On August 31, 1955, the site was retransferred to DOI.

#### 3.3 Ownership and Land Status

Because the exact location of the site could not be identified even with the assistance of the Municipality of Anchorage and DNR, the ownership is uncertain. It is believed to be privately owned, as three private owners in the area where the site is believed to be were identified.

#### 4.0 ELIGIBILITY FOR DERA RESTORATION

#### 4.1 Eligibility Criteria

Remedial actions under the DERA Program require that a number of criteria be considered, including prior military use of the property, current land use, and the wishes of the owner. The sites identified for investigation in this project's Scope of Work are based upon Corps of Engineers records, which indicate that the subject properties were used by the military. In many cases, little information is available to determine the function, use, and condition of the properties, requiring research of the history and land ownership of the sites. This information has been used to establish criteria for determining whether a formal site inspection and inventory is required for each site.

Three criteria have been identified for this determination. A "negative" report is to be prepared if:

- o The property was acquired, but never used by the military;
- o The property is still owned by the military and in active use; or
- o The landowner states that no military-related debris is at the site and/or desires no action on the part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with regard to cleanup or restoration.

If any of these criteria is met, site inspections and inventories will not be performed. The report will recommend that no further actions be taken by URS or the Corps of Engineers for that particular site. If none of these criteria are met, a "positive" report is to be prepared, for which site inspections and inventories will be performed to:

- o Develop an inventory of types and approximate volumes of debris;
- o Identify existing and potential disposal sites for the debris;
- Assess potential restoration alternatives; and
- o Prepare a preliminary cost estimate for the recommended restoration alternative(s).

#### 4.2 Site Eligibility Evaluation

The three private owners in the area where the site is located were contacted to determine the site's status. None of the property owners recall military use of such a site. One owner stated that they have hiked extensively through the area and never encountered debris of any kind, even military.

#### 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Property owners in the area are not aware of any debris or even any military use of the area. Information in the Army Corps of Engineers files indicates that no improvements to the site were planned. Therefore, this site is assigned a "negative" designation, and it is recommended that no further actions be taken by the Corps of Engineers under the DERA Program.

#### LIST OF CONTACTS



- 5) Kay Vanderwerff
  Department of Property Appraisal
  Department of Property and Facility Management
  Municipality of Anchorage
- Division of Land and Water Resources Chugach State Park, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation Department of Natural Resources State of Alaska 3601 "C" Street Anchorage, Alaska 99510



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Lind Office Anchorage, Alaska

October 14, 1953

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#### DECISION

Bepartment of the Air Feree Alaskan Air Command

Special Land Use Permit Anchorage perial 024498

#### Permit Amended

On Soptember 1, 1953 the Department of the Air Force, Alaskan Air Osmand was issued a special land use permit for lands described as follows:

Generating at U.S.C. & G.S. Station "Anderson", Latitude &1° 18' 36.565" North, Longitude 149° 26' 31.769" West; these &. 49° 00° East for a distance of 8500 feet, more or less, to a point at approximate Latitude 61° 17' 42" North and Longitude 149° 24' 21" Nest; these North for a distance of 330 feet to the true point of beginning for this description; thence east 330 feet; thence south 660 feet; thence east 330 feet to the point of beginning.

On October 9, 1953, Mr. Thomas E. Smith, Chief, Real Estate Division odvised this office of an emission of a portion of the land description on the permit as issued.

Ascordingly, the permit is amended to read as follows:

Commencing at U.S.C. & G.S. Station "Anderson", Latitude 61° 18' 36.565" north, Longitude 149° 26' 31.769" West; themes S. 49° 00' east for a distance of 8500 feet, more or less, to a point at approximate Latitude 61° 17' 42" north and Longitude 149° 24' 21" west; thence north for a distance of 330 feet to the true point of beginning for this description; themse east 330 feet; thence south 660 feet; thence west 660 feet; thence north 660 feet; thence east 330 feet to the point of beginning.

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CORPS OF ENGINEERS Eagle Kiver Training Camp Site SUP A024498 U.S.C. & G.S. ¡Station "Anderson" Lat. 61° 18'36.565" North. " 18ep53 Long. 149° 26' 31.769" West EAST 330' ------ EAST 330'--NE 14 NW 14 Sec 23 (Approximate) T. 14 N R. IW 5M 660.00 Top scale

(inc) 8500.4 = 1.61